

24 July 1991

Title: "Baker: New Zealand's Nuclear Stand Still a Problem." Remarks of State Secretary **Baker** to reporters preceding his meeting with New Zealand's Foreign Minister, Donald McKinnon. (910724)

Text: *EPF304 07/24/91 * **BAKER: NEW ZEALAND'S NUCLEAR STAND STILL A PROBLEM** (Transcript: Remarks to reporters 7/24) (270)

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia — Secretary of State James A. Baker told reporters here July 24 that while the United States and New Zealand are talking to each other, the anti-nuclear stand of New Zealand remains a problem.

"Well, we've got some serious difficulties there and there is not going to be much improvement at all on that side of the equation. There can't be until we work this — until there is somehow a solution to that problem," Baker said.

His remarks came preceding his meeting with New Zealand's Foreign Minister Donald Charles McKinnon.

Following is transcript of Q&A:

(begin transcript)

Q: Mr. Secretary, can you please answer a question on the relationship between the United States and New Zealand?

BAKER: Sorry, I didn't hear your question.

Q: How do you describe the relationship between the United States and New Zealand at the moment?

BAKER: We've still got some problems but we are talking, aren't we?

Q: Is the relationship improving while New Zealand still has its anti-nuclear stand?

BAKER: I'm sorry, but you know you talk so fast. I'm a slow-talking Texan and I'm sorry. Go a little bit slow, then I'll get your question.

Q: Is there hope of the relationship improving while New Zealand has its anti-nuclear stand?

BAKER: Well, we've got some serious difficulties there and there is not going to be much improvement at all on that side of the equation. There can't be until we work this — until there is somehow a solution to that problem.

(end transcript)

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